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NEWSLETTER

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Witches Liberation Movement

* RELIGIOUS RACISM IN THE CRAFT *

The Vol. 9, No. 1 issue of Crystal Well has Editorial "Divided We Fall." Then there's "Why The Differences" by "Fian." Let me quote "***I would say accept separate traditions for northern and southern beliefs. I find the former to be more spiritual than the latter - and no slight is intended for either group. The Mediterranean witch, and I base this solely on the literature, has an element of violence and vengeance which I have yet to encounter in northern or Celtic Craft as I know it. Why this is, if indeed it is true, I am not quite certain....Research and speculation, however, leads me to conclude the Mediterranean witch is a degenerate form of a more spiritual forebearer. Lacking the present upsurge of popularity and its resultant surge of recruits the northern witch could have become the same. The southern witch mainly works alone. The northern works still in a coven - be it large or small. One maintains the group or Craft discipline of integrity, the other is left to the spiritual character of an individual."

BACKGROUND: This "Fian" is a military career man who spent time in Vietnam, one of those "Let's bomb the gooks and get the hell out of here," who resents my WICA expose of Joe Wilson's spying activities for military (WICA #7), who was initiated into Rowan & Robat's Gardnerian coven, whose Air Force base residence prohibits him from being a regular coven attendant, whose "spirituality" consists in following military orders even if it involves murdering other human beings (like the Vietnamese), and whose calling Northern Witches more spiritual than The southern totally disregards the fact that most Teutonic traditions revered their War Gods while the Goddess was relegated to second place if not kicked into the trashcan, that some of the greatest Temples to the Goddess were those of the Minoan Civilization in Crete, Greece, Sicily, Italy, Malta etc. And unlike the Northern Witches the Maltese language HAS ABSOLUTELY NO WORD FOR "FATHER."

If this "Fian" meant to say "Sicilian Witch" he should have done so and not implicate the entire Mediterranean Witchhood in his religious racism. As to his "research": What research? What books? He doesn't say. What Mediterranean Witch groups or covens has he attended? What "literature" does he base his assertions on? Does he mean my writings? If Karma is being used as a synonym for "revenge" and "violence" then all Witches are included. In one portion of this article he asks "Let's forget our ancestry" and then disregards his own request. This article and the preceding Editorial are contradictions in terms! The motive for writing it and the motive for publishing it are obvious....as many of you have pointed out to me. What's so spiritual about a military career man whose very livelihood depends upon the possibility of violence (war)? Whose children are fed and clothed at the expense of Vietnamese children whose napalmed bodies made them run screaming in agony into the streets? Whose employer dropped thousands of bombs on North Vietnam during the

Christmas week (1972) while the airwaves at home were full of "Peace on earth... Goodwill towards men."? What more perfect example does one need of violence and revenge? This "Fian" may have Scotch ancestry but his initiation is NOT Scotch but Gardn erian. And his Book of Shadows contains passages from ARADIA ...especially the one sanctioning nudity that he so loves (he "abhors" robed rituals).....plagiarized from MEDITERRANEAN WITCHES! As to his elevation of Celtic Witches....or Tradition....I suggest that he do more historical research and he will find Celts in northern Italy, Gaul and elsewhere. C. G. Leland's findings preceded those of Margaret Murray and G. B. Gardner. As to his remarks that the Mediterranean Witch is "a degenerate form of a more spiritual forebearer" let me quote Ms. Murray's Preface to her WITCH CULT IN WESTERN EUROPE: "It is more difficult to trace the English practices than the Scotch or French, for in England the cult was already in a decadent condition when the records were made; therefore records in a purely English colony would probably contain much of interest."

THE SOUTHERN WITCH MAINLY WORKS ALONE. This is either deliberate deception or total ignorance. Palermo, Sicily, has probably the most active Witch organization in the world...over 3000 members...with branches scattered throughout Italy, Malta and elsewhere. They all work in "covens" though this term is a recent one and their groups were NOT confined to any specific number. In the past most were broken down into small "cells" in order to prevent detection and betrayal. For a fuller understanding of this see chapter "Sicilian Witchcraft" in my book WITCH-CRAFT: THE OLD RELIGION due by Fall of 1973. The use of the word "integrity" by this Fian and his ilk is an obscenity, a perversion of the meaning. For one who talks about being more "spiritual" and saying the Mediterranean Witches are more "violent" and given to "revenge" let me ask him and all those who think like him: What is your stand on the issue of AMNESTY for those who refused to be part of a racist war? And while on this subject just what the hell is so "spiritual" about a Military Career? Or a Military paycheck? Just what was your "spiritual" opposition to being sent to Vietnam? No, Mediterranean Witches did not...do not...revere War Gods over the Mother Goddess. Throughout Italy Diana was always called "Queen of the Witches." The Military is in itself a patriarchal, male chauvinist, War God - oriented organization WHERE THE FEMALE PRINCIPLE IS TOTALLY ABSENT, where individual and civil rights don't exist, where a man loses all dignity, all right of choice, where violence in its myriad forms is a way of life (whether this violence takes the form of group pressure, unreasonable rigid codes, lack of privacy, or that a bureaucratic-totalitarian regime can force men to act against their will, and if anyone asserts himself in any way he is threatened with imprisonment, court martial, demotion or being sent to a war zone where he may be killed.) The Military may be a necessary evil in time of war but I still question the kind of mentality that can make it a CAREER. Let me point out that THERE ARE NO MEDITERRANEAN WITCHES WHO ARE MILITARY CAREER MEN. I've had this Fian's handwriting analyzed! He makes many downward-pointed t-bars. Look this up in any graphology book and you will see that it means one who is DOMINEERING...one who wishes to impose his will upon others.... a form of violence. When opposed such a person is vengeful. From this it's not hard to understand HIS motive for writing the above or HIS reasons for being in the Air Force. You can bet your bootstraps that he's NOT a draftee or private! He talks Goddess but his lifestyle is WAR GOD. I write under MY OWN NAME and don't hide behind a Craft pseudonym. I know who he is, where he's stationed etc. He's been a subscriber to WICA. Rumor has it that after he had his children he had a vasectomy. I hope that by some biological freak of nature his brains weren't located there otherwise calling him "NUTS" would be appropriate. Too bad he's not a worshipper of the Goddess Cybele then he could have gone all the way. According to his own tradition that stresses the "fertility" aspect of the Craft... does he qualify? The next time this ex-Catholic, U. S. born Scotch bag-pipe playing Air Force Captain (or whatever) writes a religiously racist article I'll make sure that everyone knows exactly who the author is! If that's "vengeance" make the most of it and SO MOTE IT BE. Especially since in the Craft he is not a "Jack of all trades" but only knows his own tradition, he is not qualified to speak-write about what he doesn't know. He and his publisher must be very insecure in their own Witch claims to write such prejudicially untrue balderdash.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CRAFT CLASS! On Sunday, Nov. 12, Hermes of the N. Y. Welsh Traditionalists, and a visiting member of Brythonic Gardnerians, held a Sunday School Class on the Craft at Brooklyn Heights' Unitarian Church. Witchcraft and Magick were discussed followed by the children forming 2 circles doing the Ancient Rune Dance! The Witches & Unitarians parted with many Blessed Be's & understanding of each other. For the first time in 500 years Church & Craft shared love and laughter. A Craft first. Friendship and mutual respect, and Parental Participation, culminated in many asking for more information.

WICCA ECUMENICAL COUNCIL was held on Nov. 24. High Priests, High Priestesses & Elders representing 5 different Craft Traditions met in a spirit of goodwill, sharing, and genuine desire to respect each other's differences and to work together for betterment of Old Religion. Wine and Wicca, Love and Laughter, replaced previous antagonisms. No one sacrificed his autonomy. Everyone shared in HER (and HIS) Majesty! Craft courtesies were exchanged and invitations extended. This was a breakthrough, another Craft First, the willingness of all to work for Wicca.

PREDICTIONS FOR 1973: By Glenn McWane, Introduction by Brad Steiger, Award Books, N.Y. There are 33 Psychics who make predictions for 1973 listed under Subject matter such as National Affairs, International, Politics, Medicine, Crime, Religion, Celebrities, Business, Fashions, Drugs, Inventions etc. Some are famous such as Doc Anderson, David Hoy, Irene Hughes, Olaf Johnsson, etc. Many of the Predictions made by Dr. Martello, written March '72, have already happened: The Police-Mafia expose in N. Y.; Johnny Carson's marriage; David Frost's engagement to Diahann Carroll; Plane Hijackings; weird sex crimes; crimes-murders committed by a gang of demoralized Vietnam Veterans; etc. etc. For your copy just send \$1. 39 to WICA, 153 W. 80; NYC 10024

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CANDLEMAS WEATHER FORECAST

As far as the sun shines out on Candlemas Day
So far will the snow blow in before May,
As far as the snow blows in on Candlemas Day
So far will the sun shine out before May.

VERIFIED PROVERB OF OLD ENGLAND & SCOTLAND

CANDLEMAS DAY: Pope Innocent XII wrote: "Why do we in this feast carry candles? Because the Gentiles dedicated the month of February to the infernal Gods, and as at the beginning of it Pluto stole Proserpine, and her mother Ceres sought her in the night with lighted candles,

so they, at the start of the month, walked about the city with lighted candles. Because the holy fathers could not extirpate this custom, they ordained that Christians should carry about candles in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary; and thus what was done before to the honor of Ceres is now done to the honor of the Virgin." (Ceres=Demeter).

FEBRUARY 2 is also known as Ground Hog Day, The Wives' Feast in England, and Christianised into the Purification of The Virgin, Christ's Presentation to the Temple. Ancient Roman Februalia.

CRAFTINGS: On Feb. 19, Ed Buczynski, High Priest, N. Y. Welsh Traditionalist Coven, and first degree Witches Herman Slater and his partner in the circle, Hela, appeared on STRAIGHT TALK TV show, the same one on which Dr. Martello & Ray Buckland appeared on Halloween. Slater quoted Dr. M's wanting to change "In God We Trust" on our currency to "In Goddess We Trust." All three gave a fine presentation of the Craft. When Hela was asked "Is your husband in the Craft" she answered "No, but he's interested." "Doesn't that make for problems in the marriage?" "No, not more than in other mixed marriages. Before I was initiated as a Witch I was a Protestant and my husband Catholic." ROSICRUCIAN DIGEST, Rosicrucian Park, San Jose, Calif. 95114 has Dr. M's article "Self Esteem And Success" in its Jan. '73 issue. For your copy just send them 50¢..... HOUSE OF HERMETIC's new address as of March 8th will be: 5224 Santa Monica Blvd; Los Angeles, Cal. 90029....GNOSTICA NEWS, P. O. Box 3383, St. Paul, Minn. 55165 has lots of interesting articles, many on various phases of the Craft, including Dr. M's "Wicca Basket." \$2.50 for 12 issues or 25¢ copy..... REVELATION! THE DIVINE FIRE by Brad Steiger contains an account of Dr. M's Goddess experience while visiting Enna (Castrogiovanni) Sicily in 1964. Steiger also working on new book PSYCHIC CRIME BUSTERS to which Dr. M. has contributed... HANS HOLZER researching new book THE WITCHCRAFT REPORT, did a tape interview with Dr. M. His THE NEW PAGANS due for paperback by Fall '73..... CONGRATULATIONS to David Lieurance's first degree initiation into Bonnie Sherlock's Delphian Coven on Candlemas. Bonnie publishes THE MEDICINE WHEEL for members & those interested. Send \$1 if you'd like to get. Address: Bonnie Sherlock, South PassRoute, Lander, Wyoming, 82520..... GARDNERIAN COUPLE have decided to "Merry Part" after years of marriage and each one has a "Merry Meet" new friend. The High Priest was just handfasted to his fiancée..... PAGAN GROVE, Wicca-oriented, in New York growing rapidly. Meetings have been held every Sunday at High Priestess Lady Vivienne's home (Kay Smith) with Ed Buczynski, Dr. M (when possible), Claudia (3rd degree) and Gee Brown (2nd degree), and various other coven members lending assistance. Besides this circles are held every Friday and Saturday night. A WOLF'S HEAD SILVER CHALICE was presented to Dr. M. as a surprise "in appreciation of their 3rd degree elder" by the N. Y. Welsh Traditionalist covens on Candlemas (Oimelc) The Wolf in this tradition is a symbol of 3rd degree..... WBAI-FM radio New York taperecorded the Friends of the Craft lectures at First Unitarian Church and are playing them. Margo who hostess' this early morning show has also attended the Pagan Grove get-togethers and interviewed both Herman Slater & Ed Buczynski on her program..... THE CHURCH OF THE ETERNAL SOURCE, P. O. Box 7091, Burbank, Cal. 91505, High Priest Harold Moss, devoted to the reconstruction of the ancient Egyptian religion, publishes a Newsletter. To get yours send them at least a \$1 & you will get them for a year..... WITCH OR CONWOMAN? A certain woman who has passed herself off as a Witch had her coven penetrated by one of our Initiated underground members. She knew nothing of his prior initiation. She initiated him and he also was her High Priest. She was threatened with being thrown out of her home because of nonpayment of the mortgage by her husband, from whom she separated. She used her plight to get the unearned. She was loaned \$300 to save her home. She made 6 payments. Then she got angry and refused to make anymore. A thorough investigation by WICA agents uncovered the fact that her claimed "High Priest" son didn't know an athame from a hole in the ground. Unless this woman pays back the \$240 she owes a full expose of her activities will be published in a future WICA:..... RARE & OUT OF PRINT BOOKS: If there's a book that you want, out of print, but haven't been able to locate, send us the Title, Author and date published, by whom, if you have this information. Some of these can be expensive but we gave worldwide contacts with rare book dealers and own own personal library is vast....BRIEF CONTRIBUTIONS TO WICA WANTED: News items, Initiations, new covens, how-to ideas, Craft recipes, etc. All must be 100 words or less. You may use either your Craft name or real one..... WICA POETRY ANTHOLOGY is planned. It will be SUBSIDIZED by WICA contributors. Submit your Craft poem and \$10 per page. Book will be 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 GUAGE accordingly. All contributors will receive TWO copies & can buy the rest at 40% discount. Price will be determined by cost & number of pages. Here's your chance to have your poem in a book. Interested readers WRITE.



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